UNITED NATIONS

DP

Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund

Distr.
GENERAL

DP/CP/BAH/5/EXTENSION I
30 October 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

First regular session 1997
13-17 January 1997, New York
Item 6 of the provisional agenda
UNDP

COUNTRY COOPERATION FRAMEWORKS AND RELATED MATTERS

Extension of the fifth country programme for Bahrain

Note by the Administrator

1. The fifth country programme for Bahrain was approved by the Governing Council at its fortieth session (1993) for the programme period January 1993 to December 1996. In view of the current situation in the country, the Government has requested the extension of the programme for one year.

2. As a net contribution country, Bahrain encountered formidable constraints to securing cost-sharing resources for the funding of its programme, owing mainly to (a) the declining levels of income as a result of weakening oil prices and (b) the drastic reduction in grants and budget support received from neighbouring countries, which constituted the main source for funding the development budget of Bahrain.

3. The Government is currently engaged in a thorough review of its development strategies and policies, focusing particularly on human development and the rehabilitation of existing capacities. Since the areas of concentration of the fifth country programme and its objectives have direct relevance to this process, the Government considers that the programme is still valid as the main framework for cooperation with UNDP. Furthermore, considering the groundwork undertaken in programme development in the last two to three years, the extension of the programme is vital. The first country cooperation framework for Bahrain will be submitted to the Executive Board at its first regular session 1998.

4. The Administrator wishes to inform the Executive Board that he has approved the extension of the fifth country programme for Bahrain for a period of one year beginning 1 January 1997.

96-30222 (E) 181196 261196